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## PLAGUE-PREVENTION WORK.

### DISTRIBUTION OF POISON.

In connection with the making and maintenance of a squirrel-free zone around the cities of California on San Francisco Bay 8,898 acres of land in Alameda County were covered with poison during the week ended December 16, 1911.

During the same period 11,080 acres of land in San Joaquin County and 8,360 acres in Stanislaus County were covered with poison for the purpose of eradicating plague foci.

### RECORD OF PLAGUE INFECTION.

| Places.                                          | Date of last case of human plague. | Date of last case of rat plague. | Date of last case of squirrel plague. | Total number of rodents found infected since May, 1907. |
|--------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>California:</b>                               |                                    |                                  |                                       |                                                         |
| <b>Cities—</b>                                   |                                    |                                  |                                       |                                                         |
| San Francisco.....                               | Jan. 30, 1908.....                 | Oct. 23, 1908.....               | None.....                             | 398 rats.                                               |
| Oakland.....                                     | Aug. 9, 1911.....                  | Dec. 1, 1908.....                | .....do.....                          | 126 rats.                                               |
| Berkeley.....                                    | Aug. 27, 1907.....                 | None.....                        | .....do.....                          | None.                                                   |
| Los Angeles.....                                 | Aug. 11, 1908.....                 | .....do.....                     | Aug. 21, 1908.....                    | 1 squirrel.                                             |
| <b>Counties—</b>                                 |                                    |                                  |                                       |                                                         |
| Alameda (exclusive of Oakland and Berkeley)..... | Sept. 26, 1909.....                | Wood rat, Oct. 17, 1909.         | Oct. 9, 1911.....                     | 114 squirrels and 1 wood rat.                           |
| Contra Costa.....                                | July 21, 1911.....                 | None.....                        | Sept. 23, 1911.....                   | 364 squirrels.                                          |
| Fresno.....                                      | None.....                          | .....do.....                     | Oct. 27, 1911.....                    | 1 squirrel.                                             |
| Merced.....                                      | .....do.....                       | .....do.....                     | July 13, 1911.....                    | 5 squirrels.                                            |
| Monterey.....                                    | .....do.....                       | .....do.....                     | Aug. 6, 1911.....                     | Do.                                                     |
| San Benito.....                                  | June 5, 1910.....                  | .....do.....                     | June 8, 1911.....                     | 22 squirrels.                                           |
| San Joaquin.....                                 | Sept. 18, 1911.....                | .....do.....                     | Aug. 26, 1911.....                    | 18 squirrels.                                           |
| San Luis Obispo.....                             | None.....                          | .....do.....                     | Jan. 29, 1910.....                    | 1 squirrel.                                             |
| Santa Clara.....                                 | Aug. 23, 1910.....                 | .....do.....                     | Oct. 5, 1910.....                     | 23 squirrels.                                           |
| Santa Cruz.....                                  | None.....                          | .....do.....                     | May 17, 1910.....                     | 3 squirrels.                                            |
| Stanislaus.....                                  | .....do.....                       | .....do.....                     | June 2, 1911.....                     | 13 squirrels.                                           |
| <b>Washington:</b>                               |                                    |                                  |                                       |                                                         |
| <b>City—</b>                                     |                                    |                                  |                                       |                                                         |
| Seattle.....                                     | Oct. 30, 1907.....                 | Sept. 21, 1911.....              | None.....                             | 25 rats.                                                |

### RATS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.

| Places.            | Week ended—        | Found dead. | Total collected. | Examined.  | Found infected. |
|--------------------|--------------------|-------------|------------------|------------|-----------------|
| <b>California:</b> |                    |             |                  |            |                 |
| <b>Cities—</b>     |                    |             |                  |            |                 |
| Berkeley.....      | Dec. 16, 1911..... | 1.....      | 1 148.....       | 91.....    | .....           |
| Oakland.....       | .....do.....       | 38.....     | 2 614.....       | 444.....   | .....           |
| Fresno.....        | .....do.....       | .....       | 3 100.....       | 100.....   | .....           |
| San Francisco..... | .....do.....       | 13.....     | 4 1,495.....     | 1,103..... | .....           |
| <b>Counties—</b>   |                    |             |                  |            |                 |
| Fresno.....        | .....do.....       | .....       | 5 38.....        | 38.....    | .....           |
| Santa Clara.....   | .....do.....       | .....       | 6 81.....        | 81.....    | .....           |
| Stanislaus.....    | .....do.....       | .....       | 7 26.....        | 26.....    | .....           |
| <b>Washington:</b> |                    |             |                  |            |                 |
| <b>City—</b>       |                    |             |                  |            |                 |
| Seattle.....       | .....do.....       | .....       | 937.....         | 809.....   | .....           |

<sup>1</sup> Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 92; *Mus musculus*, 56.

<sup>2</sup> Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 527; *Mus rattus*, 2; *Mus musculus*, 83; *Mus alexandrinus*, 2.

<sup>3</sup> Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 762; *Mus rattus*, 189; *Mus musculus*, 383; *Mus alexandrinus*, 161

<sup>4</sup> Identified: *Mus alexandrinus*, 83; *Mus musculus*, 4; species not determined, 13.

<sup>5</sup> Identified: *Mus alexandrinus*, 38.

<sup>6</sup> Identified: *Mus norvegicus*, 81.

<sup>7</sup> Identified: *Mus alexandrinus*, 24; *Mus musculus*, 2.

**SQUIRRELS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED FOR PLAGUE INFECTION.**

| Places.          | Week ended—   | Shot or trapped. | Found dead. | Examined. | Found infected. |
|------------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------|
| California:      |               |                  |             |           |                 |
| Counties—        |               |                  |             |           |                 |
| Alameda.....     | Dec. 16, 1911 |                  | 104         |           |                 |
| San Joaquin..... | do.           | 68               |             | 68        |                 |
| Stanislaus.....  | do.           | 42               |             | 42        |                 |
| Total.....       |               | 110              | 104         | 110       |                 |

**OTHER ANIMALS COLLECTED AND EXAMINED.**

| Places.            | Week ended—   | Animals collected. | Examined. | Found infected. |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| California:        |               |                    |           |                 |
| City—              |               |                    |           |                 |
| San Francisco..... | Dec. 16, 1911 | 1 gopher.....      | 1         |                 |
| Counties—          |               |                    |           |                 |
| San Joaquin.....   | do.           | 7 rabbits.....     | 7         |                 |
| Stanislaus.....    | do.           | 4 rabbits.....     | 4         |                 |
| Total.....         |               |                    | 12        |                 |

**SMALLPOX IN THE UNITED STATES.**

In the following table the States indicated by an asterisk are those from which reports of smallpox are received only from certain city, and in some cases county, boards of health. In these States, therefore, the recorded cases and deaths should not be taken as showing the general prevalence of the disease. In the States not marked by an asterisk the reports are received monthly from the State boards of health and include all cases reported to the State authorities.

**REPORTS RECEIVED DURING WEEK ENDED JAN. 5, 1912.**

| Places.              | Date.           | Cases. | Deaths. | Remarks. |
|----------------------|-----------------|--------|---------|----------|
| Florida:             |                 |        |         |          |
| Counties—            |                 |        |         |          |
| Columbia.....        | Dec. 3-9        | 8      |         |          |
| Jackson.....         | do.             | 37     |         |          |
| Palm Beach.....      | do.             | 2      |         |          |
| Sumter.....          | Dec. 17-23.     | 2      |         |          |
| Total for State..... |                 | 49     |         |          |
| *Louisiana:          |                 |        |         |          |
| New Orleans.....     | Dec. 18-24..... | 2      |         |          |
| *Missouri:           |                 |        |         |          |
| Kansas City.....     | Nov. 1-30.....  | 11     | 1       |          |
| Montana:             |                 |        |         |          |
| Counties—            |                 |        |         |          |
| Cascade.....         | Aug. 1-31.....  | 2      |         |          |
| Chouteau.....        | do.             | 7      |         |          |
| Lincoln.....         | do.             | 1      |         |          |
| Yellowstone.....     | do.             | 1      |         |          |
| Total for State..... |                 | 11     |         |          |
| New York:            |                 |        |         |          |
| Counties—            |                 |        |         |          |
| Albany.....          | Nov. 1-30.....  | 1      |         |          |
| Allegany.....        | do.             | 1      |         |          |
| Cattaraugus.....     | do.             | 11     |         |          |
| Erie.....            | do.             | 3      |         |          |
| New York.....        | do.             | 5      |         |          |
| Wyoming.....         | do.             | 3      |         |          |
| Total for State..... |                 | 24     |         |          |
| South Dakota:        |                 |        |         |          |
| Counties—            |                 |        |         |          |
| Brookings.....       | Nov. 1-30.....  | 1      |         |          |
| Minnehaha.....       | do.             | 12     |         |          |
| Turner.....          | do.             | 33     |         |          |
| Yankton.....         | do.             | 1      |         |          |
| Total for State..... |                 | 47     |         |          |